

## Message Text

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14-11

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

SAM-01 SAB-01 SCCT-01 IO-10 /070 W

----- 023632

R 020737Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3875

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 2510

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, SY, IZ

SUBJ: ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF BAATH PARTY NATIONAL

COMMAND MEMBER: ARMED CLASHES IN DAMASCUS

1. DAMASCUS PRESS JUNE 29 PUBLISHED STATEMENT OF BAATH PARTY NATIONAL COMMAND CONDEMNING ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF NATIONAL COMMAND MEMBER AHMED AL-IZZAWI ON JUNE 26 BY IRAQI AGENTS. ACCORDING TO STATEMENT, BOMB WAS ATTACHED TO DOOR HANDLE OF IZZAWI'S CAR AND EXPLODED WHEN HE OPENED IT, INJURING HIM SEVERELY.

2. WE UNDERSTAND FROM LOCAL SOURCE THAT IZZAWI IS FORMER HIGH-RANKING IRAQI MILITARY OFFICER CURRENTLY LIVING IN EXILE IN DAMASCUS AND IS PRINCIPAL IRAQI REPRESENTATIVE ON (SYRIAN) BAATH PARTY NATIONAL COMMAND.

3. ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT HAS BROUGHT IN ITS WAKE RENEWED DAILY CONDEMNATION OF IRAQI REGIME IN SYRIAN PRESS.

4. ARMED CLASHES. RECENT DAYS HAVE SEEN FLURRY OF RUMORS RE  
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SEVERAL ARMED CLASHES WITH DAMASCUS SECURITY FORCES. TWO OF

THESE REPORTEDLY INVOLVED CLASHES WITH REJECTIONIST GROUPS, POSSIBLY PFLP COMMANDOS, IN DAMASCUS SUBURBS; THE THIRD WAS A SECTARIAN CLASH FOLLOWING SUNNI WEDDING IN BARZE VILLAGE NORTH OF DAMASCUS.

5. COMMENT: WE HAVE MORE THAN ONE SOURCE FOR EACH OF THESE REPORTED CLASHES. WHILE PRECISE CIRCUMSTANCES OF EACH ONE ARE UNCERTAIN, THEY REFLECT RAISING OF TENSION RESULTING FROM REVIVAL OF REJECTIONIST FRONT PLUS CONTINUING BILATERAL POLITICAL DISPUTE WITH IRAQ AND INTENSIFIED LEBANESE DISTURBANCES.

MURPHY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ASSASSINATION, ALLEGATIONS, POLITICAL LEADERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**TAGS:** PINS, SY, IZ  
**To:** STATE  
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